



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

AUG 13 1998

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Mr. Gordon K. Dahlby
Director of Curriculum and Technology
West Des Moines Community School District
3550 George M. Mills Civic Parkway
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Dear Mr. Dahlby:

Thank you for your electronic mail message to President Clinton expressing your views regarding the implementation of the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act). The White House has asked me to respond to your message.

On May 7, 1997, the Commission adopted the Joint Board's recommendation to provide discounts for telecommunications services for schools and libraries ranging from 20 to 90 percent, with economically disadvantaged schools and libraries receiving the greatest discounts. The Commission adopted the Joint Board's recommended rule that would give schools and libraries maximum flexibility to apply their universal service discount to whatever package of telecommunications services they believe will meet their needs most effectively and efficiently. In addition to all telecommunications services, discounts may be applied to Internet access and internal connections.

The annual cap for the schools and libraries program is \$2.25 billion. During the first half of 1998, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) was directed to collect \$625 million for the school and libraries mechanism. Schools and libraries should begin to receive discounts this fall.

On June 12, 1998, the Commission revised the funding year for the schools and libraries support mechanism and froze the amount of funding for schools and libraries at current rates. With regard to the schools and libraries support mechanism, the Commission directed USAC to collect and disperse no more than \$325 million per quarter for the third and fourth quarters of 1998 and the first and second quarters of 1999. Because the revised funding amounts will not fully satisfy the estimated demand by the schools and libraries that have submitted applications, the Commission revised the disbursement rules to ensure that the most disadvantaged schools and libraries get priority for support. The annual cap remains unchanged. Although the collection amounts have been revised, we will continue our commitment to provide support to eligible schools and libraries for telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections.

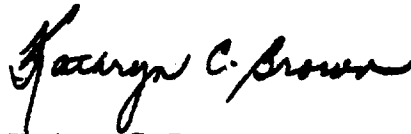
1 of 2 copies rec'd
ENCLOSURE

Mr. Gordon K. Dahlby

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The Commission appreciates your interest in this important issue. Your letter will be entered into the public record of the universal service proceeding (CC Docket 96-45).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathryn C. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.

Kathryn C. Brown
Chief
Common Carrier Bureau

AS/ACC

From nobody@www2.whitehouse.gov Mon Jun 8 17:13:59 1998
Date: Mon, 08 Jun 1998 17:12:52 -0400
From: "Gordon K. Dahlby" <dahlbyg@wdm.k12.ia.us>
Subject: Inbound-White House WWW_MAIL => PRESIDENT
Apparently-to: president@WhiteHouse.GOV
To: president@WhiteHouse.GOV
Errors-to: The Postmaster <postmaster@www2.whitehouse.gov>
Reply-to: "Gordon K. Dahlby" <dahlbyg@wdm.k12.ia.us>
Message-id: <199806082112.RAA01663@www2.whitehouse.gov>

Keywords: WWW-Correspondence; ; Ask a specific question regarding
Administration policy; Education; Professional;
Comments: Forwarded from White House WWW
Comments: This message scanned by SCAN version 0.1 jms/960226

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 205.221.15.196[205.221.15.196]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows NT)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Gordon K. Dahlby
EMAIL-ADDRESS: dahlbyg@wdm.k12.ia.us
ORGANIZATION: West Des Moines Community School District
RELATIONSHIP: Director of Curriculum and Technology
STREET-ADDRESS: 3550 George M. Mills Civic Parkway
CITY: West Des Moines
STATE-PROVINCE: IA
ZIP-CODE: 50265
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Ask a specific question regarding Administration policy
TOPIC: Education
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Universal Service Fund (FCC domain) and funding

[Message]

Dear Sir:

With the continued challenges by the telecommunication industry and other organizations on the concept of USF, I would ask for a couple of things.

1. I would like the President and Vice President to publicly reiterate a strong show of support and a value statement that the telecomm. industry has a moral obligation to assist K-12